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RICHLAND GARDENS

H.L.Wood, Prop.

TWIN BLUFFS, WISCONSIN

1947

Township of Orion--Richland County

1948

Comments

Greetings

THE TRUTH

About most of these BEST or BETTER Glads, is, that they are no better than you grow them. If that were not true; if every one else grew them as well as you, there would be no competition and soon you would be deprived of the pleasure of attending those Glad shows.

Don't trust the weather man to supply moisture when Glads need it the most, when the flower spike is forming in the sheath, for this is the period that ample moisture is most important. This is the time that both floret size, space between florets, and spike lengths are produced, or the difference between just Glads and Show-caliber bloom.

VARIETY COMMENTS

Here are a few that I grew well, or at least grew well enough for me to give the following impressions.

ANNAMAE-- Pure white, earlier and larger than Snow Princess.

BIG TOP-- Had third florets of this that measured seven and one-half inches, grown from No. 2 and 3 size bulbs. The 4 and 5 size bulbs cut bloom about the size of most others from large size.

BOBBY DAZZLE-- Hard to beat this Orange Scarlet for appearance and performance, or as a seed parent. It's resistance to disease surpasses that of any variety I've grown in volume to date.

BUCKEYE BRONZE-- Sorry we have 'nt more to offer of this. Don't see how anyone can help liking it. It's a knockout combined with blues.

BURMA-- Whether you care for the deeper shades or not, I think you will like what this one has to offer.

CONVOY-- Still my favorite true purple.

CORONA-- Planted a few bulblets of this for my own use. Can spare a few.

COUTT'S ORCHID-- My stock of this, except bulblets, got lost in the shuffle some how last Spring. Somebody got it for something else. Missed it this year. It was the most beautiful Glad I had last year. Has to be well grown to be really good, but is worth it.

CRINKLE CREAM-- A nice medium yellow, in spite of the name, that looks capable of going places.

ELIZ. the QUEEN-- Have no fault to find with this lavender whatever. Wish it was as early as Myrna Fay.

ESSA MARIE-- This one looks better every year. Believe it will become very popular for it has both life and character.

FIREBRAND-- A livlier color than Red Charm. Still in the trial stage here. What I have are reserved for further trial, and propagation.

GAVOTTE-- Believe this Picardy and New Era seedling has more cutflower value than Spic and Span, as the color more like that of Truelove, is easier to work with, in spite of its more difficult name. Some of these days we may have to use numbers instead of names,

GOLDEN STATE-- Looks good to me. Like Van Gold, the color is very good and its cutting qualities are excellent.

GREEN GOLD-- A more fitting name for this doesn't exist. The ladies call the color Chartreuse, and it does not fade out as the blooms reach the tips as most others will. You will find the color both unusual, and distinctive. It appears to have every character needed to make it a great Glad.

HARMAU-- I am getting reserve orders for this already. Newer varieties are crowding it out of my set up, which is too small to grow all the good ones, usually drop a variety, except retail, when price per hundred drops below the Five Dollar mark, no matter how good. Get more kick out of growing the best of the newer ones. If they don't suit me; they get old fast.

IDELL-- Will soon be going into its third year at Richland Gardens. So far I've found nothing that resembles or compares to its color and markings. Time goes slow when one starts from scratch, seems like.

IVORY TINTS-- Expected to release a little of this in 1948 but bacterial blight took about one-third of my young stock. Like Minuet, it needs a longer season than we have here, to put size on bulbs grown from the smaller size bulblets, but it's the most beautiful decorative I have; too beautiful to have everything. I'll get it for you yet, perhaps as premium stock.

JEANIE-- Really grew up this year. Shoulder high spikes that thumbed their noses at former rivals.

KING LEAR-- Was just as grand as ever.

LANTANA-- Little loud for my taste, grand otherwise.

LADY JANE-- Has a mean rival in Mt. Index but will keep you going until your Leading Lady comes on and price of Index comes down.

LAVENDER PRINCE-- I liked this one. Like it better if the tips, like old Bagdad, didn't get quite so floppy.

MARLENE BOTH-- Produces grand bloom from the smaller sizes but, like Big Top, a little coarse from Jumbos.

MISS WISCONSIN-- Made a much better growth for me than I expected based on reports elsewhere. Its popularity seems to have been well earned.

MISS VERMONT-- Is beautiful with its pastel shades of lavender and rose pink blended over a cream throat blotch, giving a misty effect not found in others. Both Hatch and Vermont State can be proud of this one.

MOUNTAIN GEM-- Looks a little larger than Stoplight,color is a little livelier and seems as good or better in every other way.

MRS.MARK'S MEMORY--Can still win in its class,worth growing well.

MYRNA FAY-- If you need an early Lavender that will grow into money fast,this is your Glad. Early and should be kept that way,I think, as it showed a tendency to fleck when it bloomed out in mid-season. here,however,from inquiries I made farther East,this doesn't seem to be characteristic. In general the comment is"the best early lavender I ever grew".

MT.INDEX-- You have to see this one to appreciate its real beauty. Its yellow lip petals combined with balance of petals pure white,sets ot apart from anything else,and like Ivy Robertson and Variation,it cuts right down the row,one spike as good as another.

PINK RADIANCE-- Was the grandest mid-season pink I grew. Its famous parents both did well by it.

RAVEL-- Looks pretty good from the No.5 size bulbs I had of it.

RED CHARM--Closing out my remaining stocks of this and Silentium,to make room for newer sorts. I see Silentium has come into its own down Florida way.

RUSTIC GIANT-- An R G seedling. Not partial to reds myself,but those who are,including Ed Lins of the Legion Trial Gardens,Spring Green Wisconsin,think it has a bright future. Be that as it may,its color certainly is unusually different and if parentage counts,it should go a long way.

SALMAN'S GLORY-- Color is a rather deep cream with prominent red throat blotch. Outer petals are overlaid with creamy yellow,often with a pink tinge. Its superior growing qualities will,I believe, gain for it the popularity so long enjoyed by Margaret Beaton and others,in and near this class.

SPOTLIGHT-- A grand Glad with a lovely color.

STELLA ANTISDEL-- Was the only pink I had early enough to get into the money. Cut flower market folds up early here.

SUN SPOT-- Words fail me here. Nothing in buff class to compare with this. It deserves a spot in the sun and in the hearts of you show exhibitors. See page 20,October N E G S Magazine.

SUSANNAH-- With its china white throat and beautifully ruffled pink petal edges,is as beautiful as a Dresden China doll.

TRUELOVE-- Will truly be the love of every Glad lover who grows it. Going to take something better in pink than we have yet seen to displace this extra-early commercial. Its rapid propagation will soon put it within reach of cut flower growers who take pride in growing the best.

VAN GOLD-- Looks like the answer to the needs of an extremely early yellow.

But for the necessity of reserving judgement on several others, this summary could go on and on. Needless to say some were so disappointing as to make you hope they will prove better another year, while others wouldn't have been so dissapointing had they been either better or worse.

And looking into the future perhaps I should mention this one as you will be hearing more from it a year from now. WENOKA, a LADY JANE seedling in a warm medium shade of red that crowds the 500 series as to size. It's just another red Glad until you get better acquainted with it. Performance is the key word here. Eight to ten open from M size and five to seven open from bulblets on tall saleable spikes. Will have at least one trial garden report on this for you in 1948.

Transportation

.At present the safest movement is by Special Handling Parcel Post, which travels same as 1st. class mail, at the very small additional cost of 10¢ up to two pounds; 15¢ for two to ten pounds; over ten pounds 20¢. This service is not only cheaper than express but both faster and safer, for the less time on the road; less hazard from sudden weather changes and exposure at terminals, both express and ordinary parcel post. No mail shipped can be sent collect but I can ship C.O.D. for the postage and any remaining balance due, which also insures the package against loss or damage, and still gets the shipment to you in less time and at a smaller cost than express shipment.

At the bottoms of enclosed order blanks will be found customers shipping directions. The last two items refer to ~~paid~~ orders only.

Over-count and Extras

I wish to thank my old customers for their many acknowledgements of appreciation in this regard and extend the same generous treatment to as many new customers as I can render service to.

A hint or two as to what varieties I have available that will interest you in this respect, saves me a lot of head scratching, which I'm usually too busy to indulge in and my hair is getting thin anyway. Thank you. And remember I'm no exception. We all appreciate early orders. One-fourth down will reserve stock for future delivery and makes me feel no less generous than a cash order.

Will meet some of you in Milwaukee at the convention this winter; I hope.

Hopeing the coming season will be the best you have ever enjoyed.

I am Sincerely Yours,

H.L. Wood